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symptoms admitting of the free application of their appropriate remedies. And though contagion became more active as the spring approached, producing a greater increase of applications in March and April than had been ever known in any corresponding months, the epidemic was comparatively mild.

In May and June, typhus gravior again prevailed, accompanied by distressing bilious complaints; large phlegmons were also frequently observed to form during fever or convalescence, on different parts of the head, trunk, and extremities, a symptom which often attends fevers of extraordinary malignancy; when these tumours disappeared without suppuration, considerable derangement of some vital function frequently followed, but a favourable crisis generally succeeded their maturation.

During July, August, September and October, the fever was not marked by any occurrence requiring particular notice; but on the approach of winter, pectoral and bilious complaints, which are always at that season prevalent amongst the poor of the Liberties, combined with typhus in a degree almost as formidable as in the commencement of the year. Amongst its fatal effects we have to deplore the death of Dr. G. Lee, a young physician, who, a short time before, had been appointed one of the temporary physicians of the hospital, and who is said to have supposed that he caught his last illness by visiting a poor family,* ill of fever previous to their admission; when, probably ardent in contemp-

lating the means of safety for another, he neglected those which might have secured his own; thus, in the last act of his life, giving an instance of his zeal in the pursuit of useful knowledge, and of a benevolent, amiable disposition.

It is very gratifying to observe that of all the nurses and servants employed at the hospital, but two persons were seized with fever in the course of this year, as it proves the efficacy of the regulations, established to render infection inactive, as well as the strict attention with which they have been observed, and to every thinking humane mind, it must afford the purest satisfaction, that whilst these valuable persons employed in the operative part, enjoyed immunity from fever, as a consequent reward of the discharge of their duty, they have also an incentive to future exertion.

To those who notice these short but faithful annals, this year also exhibits accumulated evidence of the extensive efficacy of the institution, in relieving the poor from a calamity which overwhelms whole families, both with want, and incapability of exertion, and in opposing the only certain barrier to its inroads on the affluent: Thus rewarding the benevolent intention on which it was originally founded, with complete success, and, like the genuine quality of mercy,

"It is twice blessed;

"It blesseth him that gives and him that takes."

WILLIAM STOKER, M.D.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

LEADING POSITIONS, ENUNCIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF MANAGEMENT OF

tracted, he having remained in the hospital 40 days, and she 39, when they were dismissed cured,

* This family consisted of a man and wife, who were both admitted into the hospital; he was aged about 68 years, and she about 64; their symptoms were very similar, and of the worst typhoid type, accompanied with severe pectoral and biliary affections; recovery was long pro-

PANOPTICON* PENITENTIARY HOUSES, TRANSCRIBED FROM A WORK OF JEREMY BENTHAM, ON THAT SUBJECT, PRINTED, BUT NOT AS YET PUBLISHED.

As it is in contemplation to build a House of Correction in the town of Belfast, which, and also a local prison, are so much needed, it is thought not unsuitable to publish the following useful hints, which may serve to suggest improvements on the present occasion, as well as convey information, applicable generally to institutions of similar kinds.

"Houses of industry, for the safe custody and correction of offenders, and houses of industry for the employment and maintenance of the poor, are distinguished by one difference. The former are intended for the purification of the inmates, from the taint which they may have contracted by familiarity with vice, and for the safe custody of their persons; the latter have not that intention. But as in both sets of houses, there are two main objects to be pursued, viz., that the inmates, by their labour, should be rendered as productive as possible, (i.e. consistently with the necessities and comforts of well-being,) a great many of the inventions which are adapted to the right ordering of the one set of houses, might, by judgment and skill, be, with great advantage, borrowed and adapted to the right ordering and management of the other. In so far as these "positions" relate to the discriminating or specific objects of a penitentiary house, viz., safe custody,

and the correction of vicious habits, the reader will easily see that they are neither applicable, nor meant to be applied, to new houses of industry; but in as far as the rules are calculated for the best possible management of the industrious faculties of the inmates, and for maintaining in comfort, on the least possible expense, the rules are equally applicable and equally important on the one occasion as the other." [PHILANTHROPIST.]

"A summary view of the objects or ends proper to be kept in view, in the planning of such a system, may not be without its use. They may be thus distinguished and arranged.

"1. **EXAMPLE**, or the preventing others, by the terror of example, from the commission of similar offences. This is the main end of all punishment, and consequently of the particular mode here in question.

"2. Good behaviour of the prisoners during their subjection to this punishment; in other words, prevention of prison offences on the part of prisoners.

"3. *Preservation of decency*: or prevention of such practices in particular, as would be offences against decency.

"4. *Prevention of undue hardships*: whether the result of design or negligence.

"5. *Preservation of health*, and the degree of cleanliness necessary to that end

"6. *Security against fire*.

"7. *Safe custody*; or the prevention of escapes, which, as far as they obtain, frustrate the attainment of all the preceding ends.

"8. *Provision for future subsistence*: i.e. for the subsistence of the prisoners, after the term of their punishment is expired.

* Panopticon is a name given from the construction of those houses, which are built in a circular form. The cells are placed on the outer part of the circle, while the centre is occupied by the keeper and other superintendants. Thus, when the doors of the cells are opened, he can see into each, as he sits in his place, while the inmates cannot see each other.

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" 9. *Provision for their future good behaviour* : or prevention of future offences, on the part of those for whose former offences this punishment is contrived. This is one of the objects that come under the head of reformation.

" 10. *Provision for religious instruction*. A second article belonging to the head of reformation.

" 11. *Provision for intellectual instruction and improvement* in general. A third article belonging to the head of reformation.

" 12. *Provision for comfort* : i.e. for the allowance of such present comforts as are not incompatible with the attainment of the above ends.

" 13. *Observance of economy* : or provisions for reducing to its lowest terms the expense hazarded for the attainment of the above ends.

" 14. *Maintainance of subordination* : i.e. on the part of the under officers and servants, as towards the manager in chief, a point on the accomplishment of which depends the attainment of the several preceding ends.

" 1. Rule of Lenity.

" The ordinary condition of a convict, doomed to forced labour for a length of time, ought not to be attended with bodily sufferance, or prejudicial or dangerous to health or life.*

" 2. Rule of severity.

" Saving the regard due to life, health, and bodily ease, the ordinary condition of a convict, doomed to a punishment which few or none

* The qualification applied by the epithet *ordinary*, and the words *length of time*, seemed necessary to make room for an exception in favour of temporary punishment for prison-offences, at the expense of bodily ease.

but individuals of the poorer class are apt to incur, ought not to be made more eligible than that of the poorer class of subjects in a state of innocence and liberty.

" 3. Rule of economy.

" Saving the regard due to life, health, bodily ease, proper instruction, and future provision, economy ought, in every point of management, to be the prevalent consideration. No public expense ought to be incurred, or profit or saving rejected, for the sake either of punishment or of indulgence.

" Injuries to health and bodily ease are apt to result principally from either that part of the management which concerns *maintenance*, or that which concerns *employment*. The supply for maintenance may be defective in quantity, or improper in quality. The labour exacted in the course of the employment, may be improper in quality, or excessive in quantity.

" What must not be forgotten is, that in a state of confinement, all hardships which the management does not preserve a man from, it inflicts on him.

" The articles of supply necessary to preserve a man from death, ill-health, or bodily-sufferance, seem to be what are commonly meant by the *necessaries of life*. The supplies of this kind, with which, according to the rule of lenity, every such prisoner ought to be furnished, and that in the quantity requisite to obviate those ill-consequences, may be included under the following heads :

" 1. Food, and that in as great a quantity as he desires.

" 2. Clothing at all times in sufficient quality and quantity to keep him from suffering by cold, with change sufficient for the purposes of cleanliness.

" 3. During the cold season, firing

or warmed air sufficient to mitigate the severity of the weather.

"4. In case of sickness, proper medicine, diet, and medical attendance.

"5. In the way of precaution against sickness, the means of cleanliness, in such nature and proportion as shall be sufficient to afford a complete security against all danger on that score.

"The reasons against inflicting hardships affecting the health, and such privations as are attended with long-continued bodily sufferance, are,

"1. That being unobtrusive, they contribute nothing to the main end of punishment, which is example.

"2. That being protracted, or liable to be protracted through the whole of a long and indefinite period, filling the whole measure of it with unremitted misery, they are inordinately severe; and that not only in comparison with the demand for punishment, but in comparison with other punishments which are looked upon as being, and are intended to be, of a superior degree.

"3. That they are liable to affect and shorten life, amounting thereby to capital punishment in effect, though without the name.

"Punishments operating in abridgment of life through the medium of their prejudicial influence with regard to health are improper, whether intended or not on the part of the legislator. In the latter case, the executive officer who subjects a man to such a fate without an express warrant from the Judge, or the Judge who does so without an express authority from the legislator, appoints death where the legislator has appointed no such punishment, and incurs the guilt of unjustifiable homicide, to say no worse of it.

"If intended on the part of the

legislature, they are liable to the following objections.

"1. They are severe to excess, and that to a degree beyond intention as well as proportion. Styled less than capital, they are in fact capital, and much more: the result of them being not simple and speedy death, as in the instances where death is appointed under that name, but death accompanied and preceded by lingering torture.

"2. They are unequal: causing men to suffer, not in proportion to the enormity of their offences either real or supposed, but in proportion to a circumstance entirely foreign to that consideration: viz. their greater or less capacity of enduring the hardships without being subjected to the fatal consequence.

"Food is the grand article. It is the great hinge on which the economy of supply turns. It is the great rock on which frugality and humanity are apt to split. Food ought not to be limited in quantity, for this reason:—Draw the line where you will, if you draw it to any purpose, the punishment becomes unequal. Unequal punishment is either defective or excessive: it may be in both cases at once: but in one or the other it cannot be. In the present instance, the sole result of the inequality is excess: so many as the allowance fails to satisfy, so many are subjected to an additional burthen of punishment, foreign to the design. Draw the line where you will, you can never draw it right: useless or improper is the only alternative: it is only in proportion as humanity loses that frugality can gain by it. Pinch many, and those hard, your line is proportionally unequal and unjust: pinch few, and those but slightly, what you save is but little, and you serve Mammon for small wages. The inequality is all sheer injustice:

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it has no respect at all to conduct : the punishment proportions itself, not to the degree of a man's delinquency, but to the keenness of his appetite. It is not the injustice of a day, nor of a week, but of whole years : and the weight of it rather accumulates than diminishes by time. As the quantity of food desired by a man living in other respects in the same manner is pretty much the same, if the measure falls considerably short of any man's desires any one day, so will it every other ; as his hunger would not cease even at the conclusion of his meal, much less will it during any part of the interval betwixt meal and meal : the consequence is, that the whole measure of his existence is filled up with a state of unremitted, not to say increasing suffering.

"I have distinguished this mode of producing suffering from an injury to health, merely not to strain words : but the difference is but in words. If a man experiences a constant gnawing of the stomach, what difference is it to him whether it comes from improper food or from want of food ? If a constant shivering, what matters it whether from an ague or from want of fire ?

"By this violation of the law of lenity, true economy does not gain near so much as at first sight might appear. That a man who is ill fed will not work so well as a man who is well fed, is allowed by every body. But the great cause that prevents economy from gaining by this penury is, that what is grasped with one hand is squandered with the other. Those who limit the quantity of food, neither confine the quality to the least palatable, which is, in a double point of view, the cheapest sort, nor avoid variety and change. Provocations are thus administered while satisfaction is de-

nied : and what is saved by pinching the stomach is thrown away in tickling the palate. Make it a rule to furnish nothing but of the very cheapest sort, and if there should be two sorts equally cheap, to confine the men to one, you need not fear their eating too much. Every man will be satisfied : no one will be feasted ; no man will be starved.

"Nor does the rule of severity exclude a certain measure even of supernecessary gratification. The rule of economy, as we shall see, not only admits, but necessitates the calling in the principle of reward : and reward might lose its animating quality, if it were debarred from showing itself in a shape so inviting to vulgar eyes. Nor, when all the luxury that economy can stand in need of is thus admitted, need there be any apprehension lest the rule of severity should be violated by the admission, and the lot of labouring prisoners be rendered too desirable."

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON VEGETATION.

IN the last Magazine, much is said of the utility of Oxygen air, when imparted to the soil around the roots of plants, in promoting vegetation. Stimulus, not nutriment, appears the fashion of the day in agriculture, as well as medicine. It is the Brunonian system applied to vegetation. Men are to be kept in the forced state of life, by drams of whiskey ; and vegetables are to be stimulated into premature growth, by doses of oxygen air. In Spain, wherever the system of irrigation is most in use, as near Valencia, it is observed, that the vegetables grow in size ; but in substance and quantity of nourishment contained in the same bulk, are much excelled